

Additionally, applicants note the Examiner has failed to include pending claims 54-61 within any of the inventive groups identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to examine these claims with the presently elected group or, at a minimum, to at least clarify exactly which group these claims fall within.

Lastly, applicants have paid a filing fee for an examination of all the claims in this application. If the Examiner refuses to examine the claims paid for when this application was filed, applicants must pay duplicative fees to file divisional applications for the non-elected or withdrawn groups of claims.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider and withdraw the restriction requirement and to examine claims 1-16 and 18-67 pending in this application.

If the Examiner has any questions or wishes to discuss this matter, the Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: _____

30 June 2003

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